REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Regarding the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, rejection of claim 6, claim 6 has been revised so as to provide antecedent basis for all terminology.

Claim 8 has been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter; claim 9 has been amended for cosmetic reasons. Support is provided at least at application page 22, line 19 through page 23, line 14 and Figs. 1 and 3(a).

New claims 19 and 20 highlight further patentable aspects of this invention. Support is provided at least at application page 19, lines 18-22.

Regarding the prior art rejections, claims 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7 stand rejected under 35 USC. 102(e) as anticipated by Son et al. (JP 2002-160537) (referred to as "Son" hereinafter). Claims 8 and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Huart et al. (US 7,072,959 B2, referred to as to "Huart" hereinafter). Claims 2, 4, 10 through 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Son et al. (JP 2002-160537) in view of Huart et al. (US 7,072,959 B2). To the extent that these rejections may be deemed applicable to the presently pending claims, the Applicants respectfully traverse based on the points set forth below.

Regarding the 35 USC 102(e) rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7 and the 35 USC 103(a) rejection of claims 2, 4, 10 through 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18, it is noted that the filing date of the present PCT International Application (PCT/JP2003/10520) is August 20, 2003, of which the present application is the national phase application, antedates the 35 USC 102(e) date of July 8

2004, of Son. Under 35 USC 363, the filing date of the international stage application is also the filing date for the national stage application. Specifically, 35 U.S.C. 363 provides that an international application designating the United States shall have the effect, from its international filing date under Article 11 of the treaty, of a national application for patent regularly filed in the Patent and Trademark Office except as otherwise provided in 35 USC 102(e).

Thus, withdrawal of these 102(e) rejections based on Son is deemed to be warrranted.

Regarding the 35 USC 102(e) rejection of claims 8 and 9, the office action points out that Huart discloses that a server sends the IP address of a called party to a terminal, which is the calling party, according to a request from the terminal. However, it is noted that Huart does not disclose that the terminal sends a "MAC address" of the called party or that the server reads out the IP address using the "MAC address."

The office action at page 4, lines 19-21 states that Huart uses ARP (Address Resolution Protocol) and RAPR (Reserve Address Resolution Protocol). RAPR is a technique for exchanging a MAC address for an IP address, and a server has a table representing the relation between the MAC address and the IP address in advance. This technique is published at least before 1984 and is commonly known as pointed out in the office action.

Claim 8 recites that, when a notice representing that an IP address has been updated is given from the terminal device, the control unit varies the conversion table by changing the IP address stored in the conversion table into the updated IP address. Thus, claim 8 defines a method of varying a conversion table stored in the server when the IP address is changed. Huart fails to teach or suggest such subject matter.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 8 is allowable over Huart. Furthermore, it is submitted that claims 9, 19 and 20, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 8, are also allowable.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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